

BLACKWELL
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



Annual Report

FOR THE YEAR

1949



By

A. H. WEAR, M.D., B.S., D.P.H., B.Hy.,

Medical Officer of Health

WITH THE COMPLIMENTS
OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH



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Preface.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
BLACKWELL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of your district for the year 1949.

During the first part of the year Measles was epidemic, especially in the villages of Langwith and Ault Hucknall, and during the autumn Scarlet Fever became prevalent, continuing until the end of the year.

Housing is still one of our major problems, and the number of houses erected is very small compared with the demand.

I wish to thank the Chairman and members of the Council for their continued interest and support, and also the members of the staff for their loyal co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. H. WEAR,

Medical Officer of Health.

"Dale Close,"

100, Chesterfield Road South,
Mansfield.

Statistics of the Area.

Area (acres)	21,922
Population (Census 1931) ...	44,891
Population mid-year (Registrar-General), 1949 ..	43,690
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1949) according to Rate Books	11,518
Rateable Value, 1949 ..	£174,890
Sum represented by a Penny Rate, 1949	£661

Social Conditions.

The social conditions are mainly industrial, the chief occupations of the inhabitants being coal mining and agriculture.

There is a large hosiery factory in the district, which is partly in Nottinghamshire and partly in Derbyshire, a wagon works, and eight collieries.

Chief cause of Invalidity in the District.

During the year, 9 adults and 57 children were treated for scabies. This was a welcome drop from the war years. In 1943 the total number of persons treated was 1,381, and 929 in 1944.

29 children were treated for verminous heads compared with 50 last year.

Nutrition.

The nutrition of the average child showed no sign of worsening during the past year. There is no doubt that the extra milk and the mid-day meals at school is only just sufficient to keep many children in the 'normal' category.

Vital Statistics.

BIRTHS:

Live Births—

	Total Males Females			
Legitimate	770	367	403	{ Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 18·2.
Illegitimate	29	17	12	
Still Births	22	10	12	{ Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 26·7.

	Total Males Females			
DEATHS	466	245	221	{ Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 10·6.
Corrected death rate, 12·4.				

Deaths from puerperal causes—

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births	
Puerperal Sepsis	—
Other puerperal causes	2·5
Total	2·5

DEATH-RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE:—

All infants, per 1,000 live births	.....	47·5
Legitimate infants, per 1,000 legitimate live births	.....	48·0
Illegitimate infants, per 1,000 illegitimate live births	.....	34·0

DEATHS FROM:—

Whooping Cough (all ages)	.....	.....	1
Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	.....	.....	3
Cancer (all ages)	.....	.....	79
Heart Disease	.....	.....	119
Violent Deaths	.....	.....	21
Road Accidents	.....	.....	3

INFANTILE DEATHS.

During the year, 7 premature babies died (4 males and 3 females.)

Birth-rate, Death-rate. and Analysis of Mortality during the Year 1949.

	Birth-rate per 1,000 Total Population		Annual Death-Rate per 1,000 Population						Rate per 1,000 Live Births	
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Enteric Fever	Small-pox	Whooping-cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Diarrhoea and Enteritis, under 2 years	Total Deaths under 1 year
England and Wales	16.7	0.39	11.7	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.15	3	32
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ...	18.7	0.47	12.5	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.15	3.8	37
148 Smaller Towns (1931 adjusted) Populations 25,000—50,000 ...	18	0.40	11.6	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.14	2.4	30
London	18.5	0.37	12.2	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.11	1.7	29
BLACKWELL R.D.	18.2	0.5	12.4	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.06	3.7	47

General Provisions of Health Services in the Area.

Laboratory Facilities.

The number of types of specimens dealt with by the County Laboratories were as follows:—

	Positive	Negative	Total
Enteric group of organisms	—	11	11
Brucella Abortus	—	—	2
C. diphtheriæ	—	46	46
Vincent's Angina	4	36	40
Hæmolytic Streptococci	16	38	54
Sputa for Tubercle Bacilli	4	52	56
*Water	6	50	56
*Ice Cream, Methylene Blue Test	46	83	129
Milk—			
Methylene Blue	24	199	223
Bacillus Coli	16	65	81
*Bacterial Count	—	3	3
*Phosphatase Test	1	100	101
*Turbidity Test	—	1	1
*Phosphatase Test, Heat Treatment Scheme	2	25	27
Tubercle Bacilli, Inoculation Test—			
Routine Samples	3	147	150
Min. of Agriculture	2	10	12
Clinical Specimens	6	15	21
Totals	128	858	986

*Positive — Unsatisfactory.

Negative — Satisfactory.

In addition to the above, one T.B. sputum was examined at the Mansfield Laboratory. This proved to be negative.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES IN THE AREA.

When the National Health Act came into force, the ambulance service was taken over by the County Council. Chesterfield is now the central depot (Tel. No. 4141).

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE, AND SCHOOL CLINICS.

All these clinics are under the control of the County Council. A Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic is held every week on a Wednesday afternoon at Shirebrook, and once a fortnight at Pinxton, South Normanton, Tibshelf, Langwith and New Houghton.

Ante-natal Clinics are held every Monday at Shirebrook.

A School Clinic for the treatment of minor ailments is held every Wednesday morning at Shirebrook, and fortnightly on a Saturday at Alferton.

TUBERCULOSIS CLINIC.

Held at Brimington Road, Chesterfield, on Tuesday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 2 to 4 p.m.

VENEREAL CLINICS.

These are at Chesterfield Royal Hospital.

Males: Mondays from 6 until 8 p.m.
Wednesdays from 6 until 8 p.m.
Saturdays at 2.30 p.m.

Females: Mondays at 3 p.m.
Thursdays from 2 until 4 p.m.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER.

The supply has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity. The average daily demand has been 1·279 million gallons supplied in bulk by the Meden Valley Waterworks Committee from boreholes in the bunter sandstone at Budby in Nottinghamshire.

The chlorinating plant is installed at the Budby Well and .125 parts per million of chlorine is added.

The water is not liable to plumbo-solvent action.

Bacteriological and chemical samples have been taken at the well every four months, and all have been satisfactory. In addition, 49 bacteriological samples were taken in the district, and out of these 37 came from South Normanton, where four unsatisfactory samples were obtained in Church Street and Victoria Street. The cause of the bad samples was never fully established, but it was thought that they might be due to private owners connecting their houses to the supply and thereby causing contamination in the process.

After the pipes had been flushed and the chlorine temporarily increased, the samples were satisfactory.

The hardness of the water in the three boreholes continues to increase. In August it was 13 degrees in the third borehole and 19 degrees in the first borehole.

The following satisfactory bacteriological sample was taken before chlorination:—

Temperature on arrival	.....	12C.
Number of colonies per ml. developing on Agar in—		
3 days at 22 C.	.....	1
48 hours at 37 C.	.....	1
B. Coli Test (MacConkey's Bile Salt Lactose Broth)—		
Probable number of coliform organisms per 100 ml.		0

Additional Reservoirs.

The construction of additional reservoir accommodation at both Stony Houghton and Whiteborough was commenced in 1948. Structural work has been completed at Stony Houghton, and when delivery of valves has been effected and they have been installed, these reservoirs (two units, each 300,000 gallons) will be brought into commission.

The erection of the six units (each 500,000 gallons) at Whiteborough is still proceeding, and will be completed in 1950.

Mains Extensions.

During the year, the following are among the water mains extensions which have been carried out by your Engineer's department:—

Tibshelf Housing Site:	130 yards 3-inch diameter
Tibshelf Housing Site:	535 yards 4-inch diameter
Hamlet, South Normanton	
Housing Site:	75 yards 3-inch diameter
	30 yards 4-inch diameter
Maltings, Langwith	
Housing Site:	165 yards 3-inch diameter
	549 yards 4-inch diameter

In addition, 1,237 yards of 8-inch main was laid in Mansfield Road, Glapwell, and 328 yards of 6-inch at Biggin, Tibshelf.

Water Supplies.

Parish	No. of houses supplied with district water direct to houses	Population (estimated)	No. of houses supplied with district water from stand pipes	Population (estimated)	No. of houses without district water using wells	Popula- tion (estim'd)
Pinxton	1,355	4,935	13	50	—	—
South						
Normanton	1,782	6,432	61	245	1	2
Tibshelf	905	2,846	2	6	—	—
Blackwell	1,095	3,682	115	405	3	7
Shirebrook	2,565	10,025	3	12	5	9
Scarcliffe	1,986	7,946	8	32	—	—
Ault Hucknall	533	2,123	—	—	—	—
Glapwell	264	1,023	—	—	—	—
Pleasley	668	2,637	—	—	—	—
Total	11,153	41,649	202	750	9	18

CLOSET CONVERSIONS.

The following closet conversions have been carried out during the year:—

Ault Hucknall	.....	.....	.....	1
Blackwell	.....	.....	.....	10
Pinxton	.....	.....	.....	74
Pleasley	.....	.....	.....	6
Shirebrook	.....	.....	.....	122
South Normanton	.....	.....	.....	32
Tibshelf	.....	.....	.....	5
Total	.....	.....	.....	<u>250</u>

Conversions are still urgently needed in the Model Village, Shirebrook, and at Pinxton. The N.C.B. agreed to convert 130 of their houses in the Model Village during 1949, and the total (434) by the end of 1953. So far only 25 have been done in Victoria Street, Shirebrook, and none in the Model Village, which is very disappointing.

Housing.

138 Council houses have been erected during the year, the majority being at Pinxton and Glapwell, and in addition the following private houses have been built:—

Ault Hucknall	3
Blackwell	1
Pinxton	1
South Normanton	3
Tibshelf	2

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year.

1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for Housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 456
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 1426
2. (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 5
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 61
3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation —
4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 202

2. Remedy of defects during the Year without service of formal notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 480

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

1. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- (a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 1
- (b) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—
 - (a) by owners 3
 - (b) by Local Authority in default of owners —

2. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

- (a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 11
- (b) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—
 - (a) by owners 14
 - (b) by Local Authority in default of owners —

3. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- (a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 2
- (b) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 1

Mr. Wells, the Architect, has very kindly supplied me with the following table showing the rate of progress in the housing programme:—

Parish	Dwellings completed 1949		Dwellings completed up to June 30th, 1950		Dwellings in course of erection 1950		Dwellings allocated 1950	
	Houses	Bungalows	Houses	Bungalows	Houses	Bungalows	Houses	Bungalows
Blackwell	14	—	2	—	—	—	30	6
Glapwell	52	—	18	—	—	—	30	—
Hillstown	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—
Langwith Junction	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Langwith Maltings	4	—	20	—	26	—	*18	*10
Pleasley	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
Pinxton	54	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shirebrook	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
S. Normanton	—	—	—	—	38	8	44	—
Tibshelf	—	—	10	4	28	6	28	—
Total	138	—	50	4	96	14	160	16

*Note : 12 Dwellings of the 28 allocated to Langwith Maltings were transferred from the Newton (Blackwell) 1949 allocation.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

(a) Shirebrook.

The extensions to these works, put in hand in 1947, have now been completed. These extensions include new sludge drying beds, rotary filters, sedimentation tanks, new walls to existing filters, together with pumping stations and plant.

(b) Westhouses.

This scheme, which includes two new pumping stations, pumping plant and rising mains, has now been completed and put into operation. By means of this scheme, sewage formerly treated at the old Westhouses North and South Works is pumped for treatment at the Blackwell Joint Works, and the old sites have been abandoned.

(c) New Works.

Schemes for the provision of new sewerage and sewage disposal works have been prepared for South Normanton, Hardstoft and Pleasley. These schemes have been placed before the Council and approved, and are being submitted to the Ministry of Health for authorisation.

(d) Sewage Analyses.

In addition to the normal sampling and testing of sewage effluents by the County Council, the Council's Engineer takes frequent field tests of these effluents with a view to securing satisfactory day to day treatment at each of the various disposal works.

ERADICATION OF VERMIN.

Since the introduction of D.D.T. solutions in 1946, there has been a steady decline in the number of cases of bed bug infestation found, and no re-infestations have been reported. This is without doubt due to the improved vermicides now available, which secure more complete eradication of the vermin. There has, however, been an increase in the number of houses treated for cockroach infestation. This appears to be due to the spread of information among affected houses as to the efficiency of the department in eradicating this pest. Occupiers now more readily report their difficulties in this matter.

During the year, 158 visits were made, and details of the work carried out are given below:—

Bed Bugs.

Number of Council houses disinfested	.....	1
Number of other houses disinfested	.....	7
Destruction of verminous articles	.....	1
		<hr/>
Total	.....	9
		<hr/>

Cockroaches.

Number of Council houses disinfested	.....	38
Number of private houses disinfested	.....	7
Number of schools disinfested	.....	2
		<hr/>
Total	.....	47
		<hr/>

Other Vermin.

Number of Council houses disinfested for		
Woodbeetles	.....	2
Number of private houses disinfested for		
Woodbeetles	.....	3
		<hr/>
Total	.....	5
		<hr/>

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

As all slaughtering of food animals, except emergency slaughters, takes place at Chesterfield Abattoir, no ante-mortem inspection is possible. Post-mortem inspection is carried out in respect of all notifications of emergency slaughtering, and all pigs slaughtered for home consumption where notification of such slaughtering is received.

Number of Animals slaughtered and examined:—

	Pigs	Other Animals
Emergency slaughterings	—	—
Cottagers' pigs slaughtered in private slaughterhouses and on private premises *	*	—
Number of animals inspected	581	—

*Number not known.

Condemnation of Unsound Food:

(All diseases except Tuberculosis)

Whole carcases condemned	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	15	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	6.2	—

Tuberculosis only:

Whole carcases condemned	1	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	5	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	3.73	—

Further details of these will be found in the Sanitary Inspectors' reports.

Clean Food:

No definite action was taken in connection with this during the year except the decision to adopt new Bye-laws, and arrangements are being made to hold an exhibition during 1950.

Urgent Sanitary Requirements.

1. Abatement of overcrowding.
 2. Conversion of the pail closets at Pinxton, Blackwell and Shirebrook.
 3. Properties with one tap to four or five houses to have a proper water supply.
 4. Demolition of certain slum properties, particularly at Pinxton and South Normanton.
-

National Assistance Act.

No person was removed compulsorily to hospital under Section 47 of this Act. Two old people living in a state of neglect were removed voluntarily.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

Diphtheria.

One case occurred in the parish of Shirebrook. Four other suspected cases were removed to hospital, but in none was the diagnosis confirmed.

In order to prevent any danger of contracting diphtheria it is recommended that children be immunised at one, five, and eleven years of age. During this year, 316 toddlers and 91 school children had injections.

Every effort is made for children to be immunised. School children are given injections by the County School doctors, and infants by either their own doctor or at the Infant Welfare Clinics.

Scarlet Fever.

209 cases were notified compared with 67 for last year.

The incidence remained normal until September, when a sharp outbreak occurred in the northern part of the district; the villages of Doe Lea and Langwith were chiefly affected. The disease was of a very mild type, and was spread by direct contact, mostly in school.

Owing to the prevalence of the disease, I closed the Whaley Thorns Infants School for one week before the Christmas holiday.

There was no evidence that the disease was spread by milk.

Many of the contacts were found to be suffering from tonsilitis and they were equally as infectious as the patients, this undoubtedly helped to spread the infection.

Poliomyelitis.

Two notifications were received; both cases contracted the disease outside the district.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1949.

Notifiable Disease	Number of Cases notified											Total Cases notified in each Parish of the District									Total Cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths			
	At all Ages	At Ages—years										Shirebrook	S. Nanton	Pinxton	Tibshelf	Blackwell	Pleasley	Scarcliffe	A. Hucknall	Clapwell					
		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45												45 to 65	65 & upwards	
Small-pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Plague ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	209	1	6	8	27	96	37	12	3	5	4	31	5	4	12	7	20	82	27	11	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	2	—	1	—	—	1	1	6	6	5	8	8	—	3	3	2	2	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	31	—	1	—	—	1	1	1	6	6	8	2	—	4	3	2	2	3	4	2	—	—	—	—	—
Other forms of Tuberculosis	4	—	1	—	—	2	1	3	5	2	2	7	—	3	—	2	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	17	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	405	15	33	74	58	159	4	1	1	1	—	93	—	31	41	12	2	90	97	22	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	20	2	2	1	3	7	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	4	1	9	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	700	18	43	93	88	267	43	23	16	16	14	145	53	31	57	27	26	195	130	36	86	21	—	—	—

Food Poisoning.

Three cases were notified. Two of these lived in an overcrowded house—one had been ill for five weeks and the other for two weeks before I was informed. At this late stage it was impossible to find out the organism causing the disease. Both children recovered.

The third case was a baby of five months who had been fed on National Dried Milk. This also was removed to hospital and recovered.

Measles and Whooping Cough.

405 cases of Measles and 20 of Whooping Cough were notified. There were no deaths.

Tuberculosis.

The following table gives particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and of all deaths from the diseases during the year:—

Age Periods in years			NEW CASES				DEATHS			
			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	...	...	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
5	...	...	—	1	2	—	—	1	1	—
10	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	...	...	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	...	...	2	2	—	—	—	1	1	—
25	...	...	2	—	—	—	1	2	—	—
35	...	...	4	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
45	...	...	3	1	—	—	2	2	—	—
55	...	...	3	1	—	—	1	2	—	—
65 and upwards			2	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
Totals ...			18	13	3	1	7	9	2	—

The phthisis death-rate is .41 per 1,000 of the population.

Factories Act.

There are 41 factories registered in the Blackwell Rural District which are inspected from time to time, and action taken as is necessary. Conditions generally were found to be satisfactory.

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	37	39	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	79	63	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	—	—	—
Total ...	116	102	3

2.—Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	Number Found	Number Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	2	2	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	1	1	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):				
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Outwork)	3	3	1	—
Total ...	6	6	1	—

3.—Outwork.

Nature of Work	No. of Out-workers	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council
Wearing Apparel, making, etc.	32	—
Lace, Lace Curtains and Nets	3	—
Nets, other than wire nets ...	5	—
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc.	1	—
Textile Weaving	3	—
Total ...	44	—

Reports of Sanitary Inspectors.

NORTHERN AREA.

Comprising the Parishes of Shirebrook, Scarcliffe, Pleasley,
Ault Hucknall and Glapwell. 14,626 acres.

Sanitary Inspector: I. N. CREEAR, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.

(i.) Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute and
Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint
Board.

(ii.) Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute
(Meat and other Foods).

(iii.) Member of Sanitary Inspectors' Association.

Offices: Cliffe House, Shirebrook.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

General Sanitation:

Water Supplies	.....	8
Drainage	.....	154
Stables and Piggeries	.....	6
Sanitary Conveniences, Ashplaces and Ashbins		263
Re-inspections of Sanitary Conveniences, Ashplaces and Ashbins	.....	391
Fried Fish Shops	.....	86
Public Conveniences	.....	40
Factories and Bakehouses	.....	19
Refuse Collection	.....	204
Refuse Disposal	.....	110
Rats and Mice	.....	103
Cinemas	.....	18
Petroleum Acts	.....	48
Inquiries re cases of Infectious Disease	.....	316
Inquiries re cases of Scabies	.....	64
Interviews and Appointments	.....	1,025
General Inspections	.....	169
Miscellaneous Visits	.....	410

Housing:

Number of houses inspected under Public Health Acts	360
Re-visits to houses inspected under Public Health Acts	453
Number of houses inspected re overcrowding	203

Meat and Food Inspection:

Visits to Slaughterhouses	22
Shops and Stalls	590
Street Vendors'	26
Other Food Premises	280

Miscellaneous:

Salvage	131
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HOUSING.

The position regarding materials and labour for repairs has been a little better than the previous year, but is by no means satisfactory. Difficulty in obtaining timber and other materials is still existant, which necessitates interviews with various representatives and builders.

During the year, 203 visits compared with 140 last year were paid to investigate the condition of applicants to new houses. Many of these had moved from their original addresses to other rooms, which increased the amount of work in this respect.

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY.

ROBEK HOUSES SERVED.						Ault
		Shirebrook	Scarcliffe	Glappwell	Pleasley	Hucknall
No. of Houses	.....	2469	1969	215	651	533
Av. No. of Rooms	.....	4.87	4.56	4.43	4.45	4.77

Types:

Through	2411	1932	212	634	497
Through Window	57	35	3	15	36
Back to Back	1	2	—	2	—

Defects:

	Shirebrook	Scarcliffe	Glapwell	Pleasley	Ault Hucknall
Internal	1002	302	8	140	114
External	1431	474	12	273	78
Dampness	1440	686	7	241	247

Water Supply:

Tap in over sink	2460	1959	215	648	532
Tap in near sink	1	2	—	3	1
Ex. Standpipes	3	8	—	—	—
Well, etc.	5	—	—	—	—

Unsatisfactory:

Sink	15	17	1	16	7
Food Store	1799	311	8	368	74
Fuel Store	—	—	1	5	—
Washing Accom.	446	785	2	13	62

Closet:

W.C. Internal	361	658	43	53	153
W.C. External	1082	1253	167	574	263
Trough W.C.	2	—	—	—	—
Pail	1019	36	3	18	15
Privy	1	22	2	6	102

Refuse:

Bin	2469	1969	215	651	424
Pit	—	—	—	—	10
Midden	—	—	—	—	99

Drainage:

Sewer	2434	1941	215	627	387
Cesspool	35	12	—	19	34
Ditch	—	16	—	5	112
Bath	728	1098	205	275	212

Hot Water:		Shirebrook	Scarcliffe	Glapwell	Pleasley	Ault Hucknal
Side Boiler	.....	1889	1328	8	372	319
Back Boiler	.....	569	641	207	277	82

Categories:

A.	.....	490	624	195	149	122
B.	.....	1946	1290	15	488	342
C.	.....	11	18	4	4	64
D.	.....	—	30	—	—	—
E.	.....	22	7	1	10	5
Average No. of Occupants per house (Children under 10 years equal $\frac{1}{2}$ unit)						
		3.24	3.15	3.32	3.24	3.39
Average of permitted Numbers						
		9.00	8.04	7.78	8.07	8.35
Number of houses overcrowded						
		25	24	6	8	7
Number of houses with more than one family						
		397	245	22	87	86
Number of houses accommodating lodgers						
		247	160	7	35	54
Number of houses for re-view						
		18	14	1	10	5

ERADICATION OF VERMIN.

All complaints received are attended to and where necessary are treated by spraying and fumigating with block disinfestators. No re-infestations have been reported after treatment, and tenants are encouraged to scrub and clean and thereby help themselves.

Gammexane is used to eradicate cockroaches, and has proved very effective.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES.

Chesterfield Abattoir is still being used as the Regional Slaughterhouse for the area.

Careful attention continues to be given to all premises where food is stored and prepared for sale. A total of 863 visits were made for this purpose.

Unsound food condemned as unfit for food was:—

Beef and beef offal	156 lbs.
Pork and pork offal	325 lbs.
Tinned and other foods	2,936 lbs.
Fish	4,717 lbs.
Eggs	567

Premises where food is prepared were at all times kept in a clean condition.

MILK SAMPLES.

The following samples were submitted during the year for examination:—

New Milk.

Methylene Blue test	75—65 satisfactory
	10 unsatisfactory
Coliform test	1—1 satisfactory
Biological examination	69—1 positive T.B.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936-44.

Methylene Blue test	16—16 satisfactory
Phosphatase test	20—20 satisfactory

WATER SAMPLES.

11 samples of water were submitted for Bacteriological examination and 8 samples for Chemical analysis.

All the samples obtained from the Council's water supply were satisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938 (Ice Cream).

Ice cream is becoming more popular, and particular attention has been given to the conditions under which it is produced and sold.

During the year, 11 applications were received of registration of premises, all of which were granted.

I am pleased to say that ice-cream dealers accept willingly any suggestions made to them for improvement.

During the year, one name has been removed from the register owing to the owner requiring the premises for other purposes.

The results of the 76 samples taken are:—

Grade 1, 21 ; Grade 2, 25 ; Grade 3, 19 ; Grade 4, 11.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Shirebrook.

Number of houses supplied by the Council's water, and having same laid on to sink, 2565. Population 10,025.

Number of houses with external stand pipes, 3.
Population 12.

Scarcliffe.

Number of houses supplied by the Council's water, and having same laid on to sink, 1986. Population 7,946.

Number of houses with external stand pipes, 8.
Population 32.

Ault Hucknall.

Number of houses supplied by the Council's water, and having same laid on to sink, 533. Population 2,123.

Glapwell.

Number of houses supplied by the Council's water, and having same laid on to sink, 264. Population 1,023.

Pleasley.

Number of houses supplied by the Council's water, and having same laid on to sink, 668. Population 2,637.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

During the year regular examinations have been made of refuse tips and sewage works.

No serious infestation was reported, and the regular routine continued.

Premises visited	.....	56
Rats destroyed	.....	260
Burrows gassed	.....	99
Baits laid	.....	135

Treatment of Sewers.

The usual maintenance treatment was carried out and 134 pre-baits laid. There was only evidence of one rat being destroyed.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

Three licences were granted to occupy a caravan under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 269).

The premises have been kept in a clean condition.

FACTORY ACT, 1937.

48 inspections were made, and on the whole the results were satisfactory, and no notices were served.

SCAVENGING.

This work is carried out by motor transport, and during the year 31,089 miles were covered by the removal of 5,530 loads of refuse, including cesspool contents and night soil.

Four two-ton Karrier Bantams and one Guy Vixent lorry are used for the work.

In June, the Council undertook the scavenging of the out lying parts of the Parish of Ault Hucknall, which had until then been done by private owners. There is no sewer available, and in order to introduce a regular cleansing service, it was necessary to convert 99 privies to pails, and a suitable tipping ground was obtained. This has resulted in a great improvement in that part of the Parish.

The work carried out is given below:—

Month	Dustbins emptied	Ashpits emptied	Pail closets emptied	Cesspools emptied	Total No. of loads removed
January	18,229	8	5,811	11	435
February	18,346	2	5,978	13	417
March	19,621	11	5,823	8	411
April	19,832	23	5,668	1	409
May	23,889	41	6,356	13	469
June	23,138	33	5,949	18	486
July	22,956	29	6,206	23	438
August	24,483	28	6,844	31	536
September	23,732	26	6,514	19	516
October	22,558	44	6,058	21	443
November	24,525	23	6,639	15	508
December	22,290	48	5,786	10	462
Totals	263,599	316	73,632	183	5,530

Pails in the most densely populated parts continue to be emptied twice weekly, and cesspools are emptied quarterly.

In cases of sickness it is not an easy matter to obtain suitable labour owing to the heavy nature of the work, and spare parts for the lorries are often difficult to obtain. Night soil and cesspool contents are removed in a specially made tank, complete with outlet valve, and which is carried by a lorry. I am pleased to report that in spite of many difficulties this work has been satisfactorily maintained at pre-war level.

DISINFECTION.

Number of infected rooms dealt with 1,117

Bundles of bedding removed 289

One Morris van is used on the work of disinfection and treatment of Scabies for the whole of the district, and during the year 18,039 miles were covered in connection with this work.

SALVAGE.

The total weight of salvage collected during the year was 84 tons as compared with 156 tons in 1948.

Included in this was 51 tons of paper as compared with 104 tons in 1948.

The sudden closing down of supplies formerly required by the mills resulted in a vast quantity of paper being stored in the open, and at the end of the year much of this had become useless.

The collection of kitchen waste has been small owing to a large number of cottagers keeping a pig for their own use, and who rely on their neighbour's scraps to help out their rations.

The schools which formerly were of great assistance in salvage collections have now ceased to show any interest.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Parish	No. of houses supplied with district water		No. of houses supplied with district water	
	Direct to Houses	Population (estimated)	from Stand Pipes	Population (estimated)
Shirebrook	2,565	10,025	3	12
Scarcliffe	1,986	7,946	8	32
Ault Hucknall	533	2,123	—	—
Glapwell	264	1,023	—	—
Pleasley	668	2,637	—	—

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The number of conversions in each parish:—

Shirebrook, 122 ; Pleasley, 6 ; Ault Hucknall, 1.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for Housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 254
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 691
2. (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 Nil
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose Nil

3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	Nil
2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	368
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.	
1. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(b) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—	
(a) by owners	Nil
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
2. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :	
(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
(b) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—	
(a) by owners	Nil
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
3. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	2
(b) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil

I. N. CREEAR,
Sanitary Inspector, Northern Area.

SOUTHERN AREA.

Comprising the parishes of Blackwell, Pinxton,
South Normanton and Tibshelf - 7,296 acres.

Population (National Register, 1939), 18,683.

Sanitary Inspector: ROBERT CLARKSON.

(i.) Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute and
Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint
Board.

(ii.) Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute
(Meat and other Foods).

(iii.) Member of Sanitary Inspectors' Association.

Offices: Victoria Street, South Normanton, Derbys.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

General Sanitation:

Water Supplies	.....	49
Drainage	.....	289
Drains tested	.....	75
Stables and Piggeries	.....	27
Accumulations	.....	56
Colliery Spoilbanks	.....	11
Sanitary Conveniences, Ashplaces and Ashbins	.....	332
Re-Inspections of Sanitary Conveniences, Ashplaces and Ashbins	.....	1,347
Fried Fish Shops	.....	5
Tents, Vans and Sheds	.....	17
Public Conveniences	.....	4
Factories and Bake-houses	.....	54
Refuse Collection	.....	49
Refuse Disposal	.....	171
Rats and Mice	.....	778
Schools	.....	1
Cinemas	.....	1
Shops Acts	.....	5

Petroleum Acts	44
Rivers Pollution, Prevention	5
Inquiries re Cases of Infectious Disease	67
Inquiries re Cases of Scabies	21
Interviews and Appointments	429
Miscellaneous Visits	783

Housing:

Number of houses inspected under Public Health Acts	197
Re-visits to houses	674
Number of houses inspected under Housing Acts	5
Re-visits to houses	61
Number of houses inspected re overcrowding	6
Re-visits paid to houses	15
Number of verminous houses inspected	53
Re-visits to above houses	105
Miscellaneous Housing Enquiries	219

Meat and Food Inspection:

Visits to Slaughterhouses	58
Occasional Slaughterings (Farms, etc.)	39
Shops and Stalls (re meat)	175
Street Vendors and Hawkers' Carts	13
Other Food Premises	194
Cowsheds inspected	149
Dairies and Milkshops inspected	145

Miscellaneous:

Salvage	225
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SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED AND COMPLIED WITH.

	Served during 1949	Complied with during 1949	Out- standing on 31/12/49
Informal Public Health Act Notices	685	674	248
Statutory Public Health Act Notices	67	30	48
Informal Housing Act Notices	—	—	—
Statutory Housing Act Notices	1	3	—
Total	753	707	296

SUMMARY OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS.

Dwelling Houses:

Cleansed	.....	7
Vermin Disinfestation	.....	58
Air Space improved	.....	—
Lighting improved	.....	—
Ventilation improved	.....	4
Windows repaired	.....	43
Walls rendered free from dampness	.....	46
Plasterwork repaired	.....	80
Floors re-laid or repaired	.....	52
Woodwork renewed or repaired	.....	27
Fireplaces and grates repaired	.....	53
Kitchen boilers repaired	.....	27
Cooking facilities improved	.....	16
Food stores improved	.....	10
Coal stores improved	.....	22
Washing accommodation provided or improved	.....	17
Internal water supply provided	.....	1
Roofs repaired	.....	89
Walls pointed and brickwork repaired	.....	23
Chimney stacks repaired	.....	20
Damp proof course provided	.....	—
Eaves gutters and downspouts repaired	.....	61
Yards and passages paved or repaired	.....	17
Yards cleansed	.....	6
Living vans removed	.....	1
Miscellaneous defects remedied	.....	33
Baths provided	.....	9

Drainage:

Drainage provided, re-laid or repaired	.....	58
Drains cleansed	.....	53
Gullies provided or repaired	.....	33
Inspection Chambers provided or repaired	.....	53
Ventilators repaired	.....	11
Premises drained by provision of cesspool	.....	—
Cesspools repaired	.....	2
Cesspools abolished	.....	—

Cesspools cleansed	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Drains connected to sewer	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Length of drainage examined	....	....	....	yards	339

Sinks:

New sinks provided	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
New sink waste pipes provided	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
Sink waste pipes repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	6

Closet Accommodation:

Buildings repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	19
Closets cleansed	.....	.....	.....	.....	9
Water closet cisterns provided or repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Water closet pedestals renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	8
Water closet service pipes repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	14
Closet pails renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	57

Ashplaces, Ashbins, etc.

Defective ashbins renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	214
Ashplaces and middens abolished	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Ashbins provided in lieu of ashplaces and middens	....	.....	.....	.....	1

Miscellaneous:

Dangerous, defective and dilapidated buildings demolished	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Accumulation removed	.....	.....	.....	.....	31
Manure pits provided or repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
Urinals repaired and cleansed	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Nuisances abated from keeping of animals	.....	.....	.....	.....	15
Other nuisances abated	.....	.....	.....	.....	8

**Summary of Legal Action for Enforcement of Notices.
Public Health Act, 1936.**

Section 75. One ashbin provided and costs recovered.

Section 93. Abatement Orders were obtained against three owners in respect of five houses. Fines and costs were imposed as follows:—

- (a) Five shillings fine, twenty-five shillings costs.
- (b) £6 6s. 0d. fines and costs.
- (c) Fourteen shillings fine, £2 6s. 0d. costs.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

There has been a continued improvement in the rate of conversion of pail closets to water closets during the year, 124 pail closets having been abolished as compared with 69 during 1948, and 24 during 1947.

The easing of building restrictions and the continuance of the system of grants to owners of approximately £10 per conversion (depending on the full cost of the work) has helped to accelerate this work.

A detailed survey has been made of all pail closets, and particular note made of those cases where conversion does not necessitate a new building or drainage system. At the close of the year arrangements had been completed to convert 61 pail closets by contract, and with the British Railways to convert another 70. Negotiations were also in progress with the National Coal Board with a view to arranging a yearly programme of 100 conversions.

The number of pail closets in use is 1,539, distributed as follows:—

Pinxton	517
South Normanton	320
Blackwell	484
Tibshelf	218
Total	<u>1,539</u>

Alterations and the conversion of Sanitary conveniences were carried out during the year as follows:—

	Scuth Normanton	Parish of Pinxton	Blackwell	Tibshelf	Total
Pail closets converted to water closets	30	74	10	5	119
Pail closets abolished	2	3	—	—	5
Privies converted to pail closets	—	—	—	—	—
Additional water closets provided	—	1	2	1	4

HOUSING.

During the year, one statutory notice was served under the Housing Acts requiring the execution of repairs.

Whilst it has not yet been possible to re-commence systematic inspections for housing repairs, it is pleasing to note that repairs have been effected at 129 houses, and there has been an increase in the volume of work completed. The increased cost of repairs, restrictions on rent increases, and the small labour force available for housing repairs, continue to make this one of the most difficult problems to deal with.

During the year, 76 new houses (56 of which are in Pinxton) were completed. Although there has been a reduction of eight in the number of houses subject to Demolition Orders still occupied, the cases of official overcrowding has risen from 64 to 71. The South Normanton parish continues to be the area most urgently in need of additional houses.

Details of over-crowding, and of houses subject to Demolition Orders, are set out below:—

Parish	Number of Houses Overcrowded on 31st Dec., 1949	Cases of Overcrowding abated during 1949
South Normanton	33	1
Pinxton	21	2
Blackwell	10	—
Tibshelf	7	—
Total	71	3

Houses subject to Demolition Orders (Section 11 and Clearance Areas):

	Pinxton	South Normanton	Blackwell	Tibshelf	Total
Still occupied	1	18	2	2	23
Vacant and awaiting demolition (derelict)	8	14	2	1	25
Total	9	32	4	3	48

Four houses, subject to Demolition Orders, are in use under the provisions of the Defence (General) Regulations, as follows:—

Regulation 68a: Two houses.

Regulation 51 (requisitioned by Council): Two houses.

Rural Housing Survey.

This Survey has been undertaken by existing staff, as other work has permitted. The first inspections were made in June, 1945. These inspections were completed in September, 1948, and the summaries prepared during the year under review. This period of inspection is rather too long to give an up to the moment picture as to housing needs, as many families living in rooms are continually on the move from house to house and district to district.

From the information obtained it is noted that, whilst the average number of rooms per house is $4\frac{1}{2}$, the average number of occupants is 3. At the time of inspection, 685 houses contained more than one family, and 72 houses were officially overcrowded. As only 198 post war houses (private and council) had been completed at the end of the year, it is obvious that additional houses are very urgently needed.

In addition to the overcrowding problem, 456 houses have been classed as "unfit." At present, the date when these families will be provided with the improved housing accommodation, so important to the maintenance of a healthy and happy life, seems remote indeed.

Summary of Overcrowding and Sanitary Conditions.

Houses	South Normanton	Pinxton	Blackwell	Tibshelf	Total
overcrowded	34	21	10	7	72
Houses with more than one family	329	86	138	132	685
Houses satisfactory	854	548	481	220	2103
Houses with minor defects	135	102	14	71	322
Houses needing general repairs	733	581	580	545	2439
Houses needing re-conditioning	1	6	1	5	13
Houses unfit	120	134	137	65	456

Eradication of Vermin.

Since the introduction of D.D.T. solutions in 1946, there has been a steady decline in the number of cases of bed bug infestation found, and no re-infestations have been reported. This is, without doubt, due to the improved vermicides now available, which secure more complete eradication of the vermin. There has, however, been an increase in the number of houses treated for cockroach infestation. This appears to be due to the spread of information among affected houses as to the efficiency of the department in eradicating this pest. Occupiers now more readily report their difficulties in this matter.

During the year, 158 visits were made, and details of the work carried out are given below:—

Bed Bugs.

Number of Council houses disinfested	...	Nil
Number of other houses disinfested	....	7
Destruction of verminous articles	.....	1
Total	.....	8

Cockroaches.

Number of Council houses disinfested	.....	32
Number of private houses disinfested	.....	7
Number of schools disinfested	.....	2
Total	.....	41

Other Vermin.

Number of Council houses disinfested for Woodbeetles	.....	2
Number of private houses disinfested for Woodbeetles	.....	3
Total	.....	5

The whole of this work has been carried out by the Council's trained staff. In the case of bed bugs and wood-beetles, Bombay Fluid (containing D.D.T.) has been used; all wall, ceiling and floor surfaces and furnishings being

carefully sprayed by a pneumatic sprayer. Bedding was either sprayed or removed and steam disinfected.

Work for the eradication of cockroaches was carried out by using Gammexane powder (D.034), and spread by means of a foot pump. Prior to applying the powder, two or three floor boards are taken up near the fireplace, and skirting boards and other woodwork is eased off the walls. This powder has given very good results.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES.

The Chesterfield Municipal Abattoir continues to be used as the regional slaughterhouse for this area, the meat being delivered direct from the abattoir to the butchers' shops on two or three days per week, depending on the availability of supplies. Careful attention is paid to these supplies and to the conditions under which the meat and other foods are stored and prepared for sale. For this purpose a total of 382 inspections have been made during the year.

The method of transporting freshly killed meat from Chesterfield Abattoir has improved during the year. The vans now used are metal lined and provided with hanging rails and offal boxes.

No. of Animals slaughtered and examined:

	Pigs	Other Food Animals
No. of animals inspected (Cottagers' pigs slaughtered on private premises)	161	—

Unsound food was condemned as follows:—

Pork and pork offal (Tuberculosis)	.....	277 lbs.
Pork and pork offal (other conditions)	.....	27 lbs.
Beef and beef offal (Decomposition)	.....	212 lbs.
Tinned meat	.....	47 lbs.
Tinned goods	.....	951 tins
Poultry	.....	60 lbs.
Cooked meat	.....	48 lbs.
Dried fruit	.....	29 lbs.
Tea	.....	27 lbs.
Semolina	.....	87 lbs.
Cereals and pudding mixtures	.....	247 pkts.
Other food	.....	69 lbs.

Condemnation of Unsound Food:

All diseases except Tuberculosis—

	Pigs	Other Food Animals
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	7	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	4.34	—

Tuberculosis only—

	Pigs	Other Food Animals
Whole carcasses condemned	1	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	5	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	3.73	—

The amount of tubercular pork and pork offal found in cottagers' pigs is a reduction on 1948, i.e., 3.73 per cent. as compared with 7.07 per cent.

An only an unknown proportion of these pigs have been examined (the Food Office find it too difficult to supply the District Council with details of licences issued), it is reasonable to suppose that some cottager and his family may have consumed some diseased meat or bacon due to lack of expert guidance.

This position is surely at variance with the national campaign for food to be clean and free from infection.

During the year, six informal notices have been served and two letters sent regarding the mis-handling of meat during transport. These have resulted in the repair and re-construction of three premises, the cleansing of two premises, improved washing facilities in two cases, and improved offal storage in another instance.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Number of Licences issued 37

Sheep are exempt from the use of a humane killer.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS.

The supervision of the production and distribution of milk continued to receive the same careful attention as in previous year up to the 30th September, 1949. After this date the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries became directly responsible for all the production side, and the district Council responsible for the distribution of the milk. In many cases the district Council is not responsible until the dairyman steps on to the street with his milk.

Knowing many of the arguments put forward for this change, such as inefficient administration by local authorities, one asks whether the change has resulted in better safeguards to the consuming public. As many of the farms have not been visited some nine months after the change, and the conditions in some cases have deteriorated to such an extent as the local authority would not have tolerated, there is at present considerable doubt as to the benefit of this change in administration.

Milk sampling as a help in supervising production methods and the sterilization of equipment continued to the 30th September. Since this date only biological samples have been taken in respect of milk retailed in the area. Of the 67 samples submitted, the presence of Tuberculosis was confirmed in two.

Details of Milk premises, etc. (from 1st October, 1949):

(a) Registered distributors	.....	.....	.....	15
(b) Registered dairies	.....	.....	.....	8
(c) Dairy farmers (retailing in area)	.....	.....	.....	43
(d) Dairy farmers (selling wholesale)	.....	.....	.....	20
(e) Dairy farms (not in use)	.....	.....	.....	12

During the year, 294 inspections have been made of cowsheds and dairies, 22 informal notices served, and three letters sent regarding Contraventions of the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations. Improvements effected as a result of these notices are set out below:—

Cowsheds:

New cowsheds provided	.....	.....	.....	1
Cowsheds re-constructed	.....	.....	.....	4
Cleansed and limewashed	.....	.....	.....	5
Floors cleansed	.....	.....	.....	4
Water bowls fixed	.....	.....	.....	2

Dairies:

New dairies provided	2
Dairies repaired	2
Limewashed	2
Means of heating water provided	2

Other Improvements:

Improved cooling of milk	2
Improved storage of milk	1
Cleansing of churns	6
Accumulations removed	1

A summary of the samples examined is given below:—

New Milk:**Methylene**

Blue Test 71 (62 satisfactory, 9 unsatisfactory)

Coliform Test 73 (59 satisfactory, 14 unsatisfactory)

Bacteriological

Examination 3 satisfactory

Biological

Examination 67 (2 positive tuberculosis)

Tuberculin Tested Milk:**Methylene**

Blue Test 1 satisfactory

Coliform Test 1 unsatisfactory

Samples are taken from each producer and producer-retailer in the area, and of all milk retailed in the area from other districts.

Year	Number of Samples	Methylene Blue Test		Coliform Test	
		Per cent. satisfactory	Per cent. below standard	Per cent. satisfactory	Per cent. below standard
1949	71	87.3	12.7	—	—
	73	—	—	80.8	19.2
1948	116	75	25	—	—
	36	—	—	64	36
1947	91	77	23	—	—
	100	—	—	74	26
1946	118	90.7	9.3	—	—
	122	—	—	87.7	12.3
1945	106	93	7	—	—
	125	—	—	85	15
1944	118	84	16	—	—
	125	—	—	83	17
1943	115	72	28	—	—
	117	—	—	79	21

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS)

REGULATIONS, 1936-44.

Number of licences to pasteurise and bottle milk	1
Number of dealers licences issued	14
Number of supplementary licences issued	4

There is one small pasteurisation plant (Holder process) in the area, the rest of the pasteurised milk being processed in the Mansfield, Ripley and Sheffield districts.

Details of samples submitted for examination are set out below:—

Pasteurised Milk:

Methylene	
Blue Test	30 samples (26 satisfactory, 4 unsatisfactory)
Phosphatase Test	39 samples (38 satisfactory, 1 unsatisfactory)

Sterilised Milk:

Methylene	
Blue Test	1 sample satisfactory
Coliform Test	1 sample satisfactory
Turbidity Test	1 sample satisfactory

Empty Milk Bottles:

Bacteriological	
Examination	2 satisfactory
Coliform Test	2 satisfactory

WATER SUPPLIES.

The water supply to the district has been satisfactory during the year both in quantity and quality, except for one instance when four bacteriological samples from two houses were reported to be unsatisfactory. The Water Engineer immediately dealt with the matter by examination, flushing and chlorination of the mains. Additional samples were submitted and reported to be satisfactory. Since this occurrence, more frequent samples have been taken in the affected area.

Number of samples of district water supplied submitted for bacteriological examination	48
Number of samples reported satisfactory	44
Number of samples reported unsuitable	4

It will be noted from the following schedule that 99.92 per cent. of the houses in the area are supplied with water from the Council's main:—

	Houses	Percentage
Number of houses without district water supply and using well water, etc.	4	.08
Number of houses without an internal water supply, but using external stand pipes served by district water supply 191 (Stand pipes vary from 1 to 1 house to 1 to 6 houses)	191	3.58
Number of houses with an internal supply of district water	5,137	96.34

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947.

The increase in the materials available for the manufacture of ice cream has resulted in additional applications for registration. All new applications have been for the sale of pre-packed ice cream. Whilst a large quantity of ice cream is still sold loose, there is no doubt that the quantity sold wrapped is gradually increasing. All shops selling ice cream are required to provide a cubicle or suitable screen to separate the ice cream trade from the rest of the premises and as an additional protection against contamination.

During the year, five notices were served resulting in the improvement of two registered premises and the provision of four shop cubicles. The number of samples submitted for examination was 55, as compared with 34 during 1948. The results of these samples are in the same proportion as last year.

One registration to retail and manufacture ice cream has been cancelled.

Towards the close of the year, the question of the adequacy of the number of samples examined for "fat content" was taken up with the County Analyst, and

eventually the Council decided to take samples for this purpose during the 1950 season, in addition to any obtained by the County Authority.

Details of registration and results of samples are set out in the following tables:—

Premises Registered.

(a) Manufacture and sale of ice cream	6
(b) Sale of ice cream	4
(c) Sale of pre-packed ice cream	21
Total	<u>31</u>

Results of Ice Cream Samples.

Ice Cream	Grade I.	Grade II.	Grade III.	Grade IV.	Total
Complete Cold Mix ..	5	6	1	1	13
Pasteurised	2	1	3	4	10
Pre-packed	10	13	4	5	32
Total	<u>17</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>55</u>

Ice Lollipops.

Number of samples examined and reported satisfactory 4

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

The Council continue to administer delegated powers in respect of this Act, and employ one part-time rodent operator, and, in addition, a full-time assistant is available for this work when required. Both men have been trained by the Ministry of Food.

Arrangements are made for Council refuse tips and sewage works to be examined monthly, and any rat infestation immediately dealt with.

This work, which has continued for a number of years, has kept the Council premises free from serious infestation.

A total of 778 inspections and visits have been made, and two notices served and complied with. Two defective and rat infested drains have been repaired and one shop made rat proof. Work was carried out on 21 private and business premises, and the cost of such work recovered.

Summary of work done:

	Council premises	Private premises	Total
Number of premises visited	85	30	115
Estimated number of rats killed by dogs, ferrets, etc.	141	1	142
Number of pre-baits laid	1,012	1,470	2,482
Number of poison baits laid	255	316	571
Number of post-baits laid	132	142	274
Number of rats destroyed by poison	449	184	633
Number of burrows gassed	7	7	14

Treatment of Sewer Inspection Chambers.

Two maintenance and one supplementary treatment of the sewer inspection chambers were carried out. To enable this work to proceed an arrangement has been made to hire a local 10 cwt. van, as required.

It is frequently found that surface infestations are related to the sewer infestations.

Number of sewer inspection chambers treated	260
Number of pre-bait takes	64
Number of complete pre-bait takes	27

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

There are no recognised camping grounds in the area, but the continuance of open cast mining in the district and difficulty in securing housing accommodation has resulted in a number of temporary dwellings being used. The total number of licences in operation under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 269) is 6, compared with 5 in 1948. All these premises have been satisfactorily maintained.

Factory Act, 1937.

A total of 54 inspections have been made, and 3 notices complied with. The following improvements have been effected:—

Factories cleansed	2
Factories repaired	3
Certificates as to means of escape in case of fire	1

Burning Spoilbanks.

Ministry of Health's Circular, 77/48.

There are six spoilbanks in the area, three of which are satisfactory and three which are on fire. Whilst the three on fire deteriorated after the termination of "black-out," continued inspections and consultations with National Coal Board Engineers and Managers has eventually resulted in effective control of these spoilbanks being re-established. They are now provided with effective water spray systems, and nuisance from dust and fumes is reduced to a minimum.

Shops Acts.

Number of notices served and complied with	3
Closet accommodation cleansed	3
Shops cleansed	2
Washing facilities improved	3

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The Council undertake the collection and disposal of refuse by direct labour in the whole of the Southern Area.

Collection and Disposal.

This work, which is undertaken by motor transport (details of vehicles below), has resulted in the removal of 3,830 loads of refuse, night soil and cesspool contents, and the vehicles have covered 31,696 miles.

Two S. & D. Freighters (10½ cub.yds.), supplied July, 1949.

Two Karrier Bantams, supplied 1946 and 1943, transferred to the Northern Area in July, 1949.

One 4/5 ton Austin, supplied July, 1942.

One Karrier Bantam, supplied September, 1939.

Number of premises served:

Ashbins	5,514	(cleansed weekly)
Ashplaces	2	(cleansed monthly)
Privies and Middens	6	(cleansed monthly)
Closet pails	1,539	(cleansed weekly)
Cesspools	48	(cleansed quarterly)

Difficulty in the maintenance of a satisfactory staff has been experienced throughout the year, and in consequence the frequency of collection has received first consideration. Whilst the removal of the refuse has been kept at a satisfactory standard, maintenance work, particularly at refuse tips, has at times been very much neglected.

The delivery of two new S. & D. Freighters in July enabled the refuse collection service to be re-organised on the basis of two teams of six men (with driver), and this largely contributed to the maintenance of the regular weekly collection during the winter months. The new vehicles are fitted with special cabs for the loaders, which have been found to be very beneficial.

With the delivery of the new vehicles, two Karrier Bantams were transferred to the Northern Area and the remaining Karrier Bantam is only kept as a reserve vehicle. The Austin is chiefly engaged on night soil collection, salvage work, and spare refuse collection when the S. & D. Freighters are being serviced.

Vehicle maintenance and repairs, except for major jobs, continue to be carried out by the Council's own staff, and is without doubt the most satisfactory way of dealing with this work. The cost of repairs is kept at a reasonable level, and the time lost through repairs and breakdowns was as low as 53 days (46 of which were due to the re-conditioning of the bodywork of the Austin). No private hire of lorries was necessary.

I must again point out that this vehicle maintenance work, so essential to the smooth working of your refuse collection service, is carried out under unsatisfactory conditions. The hired garages are unsuitable and should be re-placed as early as possible with proper garages, workshop and improved facilities for your employees.

All dry refuse is disposed of by tipping (controlled so far as labour permits) and night soil is taken by farmers for use as manure on agricultural land. Three tips were in use at the end of the year, one of which was commenced in November. Tipping at three sites was completed, one of which has been soiled down and seeded, and the other two require final levelling and seeding.

The difficulty in obtaining soil for covering tips and labour to maintain them led the Council to purchase a Muledozer (fitted to a Fordson Major Tractor with rotaped tracks). This equipment was delivered in October, 1949, and is giving excellent results in moving and stacking top soil prior to tipping, tip levelling and soiling down on completion.

No facilities are available for weighing refuse. The estimated yield (having regard to test weighings) of dry refuse is 23 cwts. per 1,000 population per day; or 1.5 tons per house per annum.

Costs.

	1949-50	1948-49
Total cost (collection and disposal of dry refuse, night soil and cesspool contents)	£8,629	£7,985
Add purchase of 2 new S. & D. Freighters	£2,658	
Cost per annum per 1,000 population	£462	£427
Cost per annum per 1,000 houses	£1,617	£1,504

Increases in wages, additional holidays and sickness with pay, and increases in the cost of materials and equipment has resulted in a gradual increase in the cost of this service over the past few years.

Below are set out details of the work performed by each vehicle, and the comparative running cost of each vehicle:—

Work done by Lorries:

Lorry	Cleansing	Mileage Salvage	Total	Refuse	Loads removed Night Soil	Cesspool contents	No. of other journeys (chiefly Salvage)
Karrier Bantam (1946) JNU 995	1,829	—	1,829	288	6	—	17
Karrier Bantam (1943) HRB 408	1,905	—	1,905	273	—	32	39
Karrier Bantam (1939) GRA 810	5,184	623	5,807	292	141	79	319
Austin 4½ ton (1942) HRA 287	9,244	3,188	12,432	172	773	189	712
S. & D. Freighter (1949) NRA 730	4,622	—	4,622	759	—	—	14
S. & D. Freighter (1949) NRA 729	5,101	—	5,101	836	—	—	13
	27,885	3,811	31,696	2,620	910	300	1,114

Comparative Costs of Operation of Lorries:

(less Drivers' Wages and Depreciation charges)

Lorry	Repairs, Maintenance, Tyres, etc.			Licences and Insurance £	Petrol and Oil			Total			Cost per mile	Cost per estimated ton
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
JNU 995 (2 tons)	115	15	3	--	27	10	0	143	5	3	1/7	4/7 $\frac{1}{4}$
HRB 408 (2 tons)	9	11	10	—	26	12	8	36	4	6	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	1/0 $\frac{1}{2}$
GRA 810 (2 tons)	64	13	10	36 $\frac{1}{2}$	77	8	8	178	12	6	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	2/1 $\frac{3}{4}$
HRA 287 (4/5 tons)	175	14	7	44	168	13	11	388	8	6	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	1/11 $\frac{3}{4}$
NRA 729 (S. D.)	13	0	9	80	97	14	8	190	15	5	9d.	1/3 $\frac{1}{4}$
NRA 730 (S. D.)	12	19	6	80	92	11	7	185	11	1	9 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.	1/3 $\frac{1}{2}$
	391	15	9	240 $\frac{1}{2}$	490	11	6	1,122	17	3	8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	1/9 $\frac{1}{4}$

SALVAGE.

The returns for the recovery and disposal of salvage since this work was commenced ten years ago are shown below:

1949-50:	291 tons	8 cwts.	0 lbs.	£881	7	7.
1948-49:	390 tons	16 cwts.	54 lbs.	£1,553	6	7.
1947-48:	301 tons	4 cwts.	43 lbs.	£1,489	19	3.
1946-47:	271 tons	13 cwts.	98 lbs.	£1,049	16	2.
1945-46:	286 tons	14 cwts.	93 lbs.	£905	7	9.
1944-45:	353 tons	19 cwts.	26 lbs.	£1,161	0	6.
1943-44:	458 tons	16 cwts.	56 lbs.	£1,392	18	2.
1942-43:	631 tons	7 cwts.	30 lbs.	£1,937	14	10.
1941-42:	465 tons	4 cwts.	30 lbs.	£1,283	8	3.
1940-41:	266 tons	10 cwts.	76 lbs.	£764	3	1.

The various materials dealt with are summarised below:

	Tons	cwts.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste paper	85	10	102	453	2	7
Ferrous metal	61	15	56	52	16	10
Non-ferrous metal		4	38	10	2	7
Rubber		9	84		9	9
Textiles	7	1	8	90	16	1
Bones	3	12	3	20	17	8
Bottles and Jars	21	19	65	38	16	6
Cullet	29	3	56	28	14	3
Kitchen waste	76	7	11	180	11	4
Miscellaneous	5	2	56	5	0	0

The year under review has been the most difficult since this work was commenced in 1940. Serious difficulties arose in connection with the disposal of waste paper; merchants were unable to sell to the mills, and in consequence local authorities not dealing direct with mills had the greatest difficulty in disposing of this material. The price of mixed baled waste fell from 6s. 7½d. per cwt. to 3s. 0d. per cwt. in February, 1950.

In June, 1949, the Board of Trade withdrew the directions to local authorities to salvage paper. The publicity given to this and the difficulties of many local authorities in disposing of waste paper did much to destroy the salvage habits of the householders and tradesmen, and resulted in ever increasing quantities of salvage material being mixed with refuse in dust bins.

The question as to whether salvage work should be continued received serious consideration on more than one occasion. It was decided to continue with this work with the belief that the markets would improve, and at the end of the fiscal year market movements were showing indications that the decision had been the correct one.

The N. E. Derbyshire Cleansing and Salvage Officers Committee has continued to meet monthly, and has been of considerable help in dealing with some of the problems which have arisen. One of the most helpful features of this Committee is the willingness with which information is exchanged between adjoining districts.

GENERAL.

The housing of the population continues to be the major problem in the area. Although 198 post-war houses have been erected in the Southern Area, many serious cases of overcrowding still exist, a large number of families (most of which have been married during the last ten years) are still living in rooms, and an increasing number of houses is becoming so sub-standard that proper repair and re-conditioning at present rents and costs of repairs is practically impossible. Many more houses are urgently required.

The lack of routine housing inspections is reflected in the steadily increasing number of complaints being received. The number having risen from 158 in 1945 to 219 during the present year. These complaints include 83 regarding housing defects, 52 drainage defects, 15 dirty and verminous premises, 14 defective sanitary conveniences, and 14 regarding rat infestation.

In conclusion, I desire to express my appreciation of the manner in which staff and workmen have carried out their duties, and for the excellent co-operation of colleagues in other departments.

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